

Town Meeting Coordinating Committee  
Minutes for June 6th, 2013  
Diana Romer Room, Town Hall

Present: Peggy Roberts, Mary Streeter, Alan Powell, Nonny Burack, TracyLee Boutilier, Melissa Perot, and Carol Gray after 4.05 pm. Absent: Patricia Holland.

Peggy called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm.

Peggy introduced Alex Krogh-Grabbe, director of the BID, who wished to speak to the committee about an idea he wanted to pursue. He explained the project's purpose as one to connect TM members through seeing a face with a name in a brief video. He was looking for a person to organize and edit the videos. He thought no money would be needed and that it could be a project for media production students or possibly high school students. Issues of where these would be accessed, privacy, self-submission, the need to change it every year, were discussed. No one felt able to take this on. Peg thanked Alex for coming and Mary made some suggestions as to how he might go forward.

Peggy reported that Jim Pistrang, the Moderator, has asked for a meeting with TMCC, the Town Clerk, the Assistant to the Town Manager, and possibly IT to discuss ways to make Town Meeting more efficient and improve the overall Town Meeting experience. A date will be set after Town Meeting.

Mary reported that the TM web page has been an increasingly big project with more being posted all the time, back table documents, presentations and power points. In a meeting she had with Kris Pacunas she asked for some policies to be developed regarding submissions, either flash drive or email.

Peggy reported that several people had requested a list of TM members' email addresses, one of them adamantly saying members should be willing to give email addresses to make communication easier. Such a list is not public, but the LWV publication *They Represent You* includes phone numbers. Peggy noted that there are issues of personal preference regarding email access and some members do not have an email account.

Mary reported the TM Discussion Group has been well used but people are careless about changing the heading and deleting repeats. Mary will remind the group to leave in only relevant information.

Peggy asked that members think of subjects for post-TM discussion and mentioned those she has received, including:

- Guidelines for posting and for the back table.
- TMCC candidate statements available.
- Lighting improvements.
- Word docs should be in larger fonts.
- Difficulties of lip readers when speakers turn away.
- Back row seating for those who need it (a wheel chair location has been created in the front row but would be preferable in the back).
- Clicker and pointer needed on the podium.
- The need to inform the gallery that they cannot participate in voice votes.
- Problem of wires near the podium.

- The need for more education of TM members concerning zoning. Carol again raised the idea of having zoning articles in the Fall Town Meeting. She noted that many who wanted to be there could not be because TM was scheduled late and there were 45 articles on the warrant with zoning and petition articles at the end.  
**STOP BULLETS AND INDENTS HERE DOWN**
- Carol moved that unless there are extenuating circumstances, TMCC recommends that zoning articles be put in for the Fall Special Town Meeting, not in the Spring. The motion passed 5 to 1.

Mary expressed her concern that public hearings were inadequate to educate TM members on zoning articles. She recommended a public forum be held for questions and satisfactory answers.

There was a question about providing a dependent care form as it is not clear now how requests are to be made. Carol said she would take care of it.

Carol also expressed concerns about the importance of fairness in TM. She noted that the board members received extra time without objection.

Alan reported that the zoning primer will not be available for this year but editing and publishing will go forward over the summer. Peggy questioned whether historic districts should be included.

Mary asked that if TMCC funds are available she would like to request a 3-hole punch for the back table at Town Meeting for the use of TM members wanting to file documents in notebooks.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:14 pm.

Documents Distributed:

Agenda

Submitted by Melissa Perot

Approved June 19, 2013